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**MAILED**  
**JAN 06 2012**  
**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Patent No. 6,244,316 :  
Issue Date: June 12, 2001 :  
Application No. 09/379,148 : **DECISION ON REQUEST FOR REFUND**  
Filed: August 21, 1999 :  
Attorney Docket No. NAED001 :

This is a decision on the Request For Refund filed December 21, 2011.

The request is **DISMISSED**.

The request for refund is dismissed because USPTO regulations require that papers filed in the application be signed by a registered attorney or agent, by the applicants (inventors) or by the assignee of the entire interest who has taken action in the application in accordance with 37 CFR 3.71. The request for refund is signed Lori Lapidario. Note 37 CFR 1.33(b) which states:

- (b) Amendments and other papers. Amendments and other papers, except for written assertions pursuant to § 1.27(c)(2)(ii) of this part, filed in the application must be signed by:
- (1) A registered patent attorney or patent agent of record appointed in compliance with § 1.32(b);
  - (2) A registered patent attorney or patent agent not of record who acts in a representative capacity under the provisions of § 1.34;
  - (3) An assignee as provided for under § 3.71(b) of this chapter; or
  - (4) All of the applicants (§ 1.41(b)) for patent, unless there is an assignee of the entire interest and such assignee has taken action in the application in accordance with § 3.71 of this chapter.

Any questions concerning this matter may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3208.

/KOC/  
Karen Creasy  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions